

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 15, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 4, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

## ASSEMBLY BILL

**No. 1223**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Block**  
(Principal coauthor: Senator Wiggins)

February 27, 2009

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~~An act to amend Section 52372.5 of, and to add Section 44257.3 to, the Education Code, relating to linked learning.~~  
*An act to add Section 44257.3 to the Education Code, relating to linked learning.*

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1223, as amended, Block. Linked learning.

Existing law authorizes the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to issue various types of teaching credentials and authorizations. Existing law establishes multiple pathway programs, which are multiyear comprehensive high school programs of integrated academic and technical study that are organized around a broad theme, interest area, or industry sector. Multiple pathway programs are comprised, among other things, of an integrated core curriculum that meets the eligibility requirements for admission to the University of California and the California State University and is delivered through project-based learning and other engaging instructional strategies that intentionally bring real-world context and relevance to the curriculum where broad themes, interest areas, and career technical education are emphasized.

~~This bill would change the term “multiple pathway programs” to “linked learning programs.” The bill, commencing October 1, 2011, would encourage the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to issue~~

~~an authorization for linked learning competence for holders of an appropriate credential, certificate, authorization, or permit who will be teaching pupils enrolled in linked learning programs. The bill would state the Legislature's intent that any such authorization meet specified criteria. The bill would authorize the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop procedures to gather and post best practices from local districts and schools on curriculum development and professional development related to implementing and sustaining schools and academies offering linked learning programs.~~

*This bill would define "linked learning programs," and would encourage the commission to convene a workgroup consisting of specified members to develop program standards for the issuance of a recognition of study, as defined, for linked learning competence for holders of a single subject teaching credential who will be teaching pupils enrolled in linked learning programs, as specified. The bill would authorize the commission to work with the Superintendent of Public Instruction to gather and post, on an appropriate Internet Web site, best practices from school districts and schools on curriculum development and professional development relating to implementing and sustaining multiple pathway programs.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) California's economy is reliant upon a continually growing
- 4 skilled and educated workforce.
- 5 (b) California needs to increase its pupils' mastery of subject
- 6 matters, and to improve its high school graduation and
- 7 postsecondary education attainment rates.
- 8 (c) Secondary education needs to engage pupils while
- 9 simultaneously preparing them for real choices after high school.
- 10 (d) There is inherent educational value in both academic and
- 11 career technical coursework, and both should be promoted. When
- 12 linked and delivered in ways that mutually reinforce one another,
- 13 both academic and career technical courses are strengthened.

1 (e) All pupils should have equal access to schools and programs  
2 that offer linked coursework. Pupils need a range of educational  
3 experiences to prepare them for success beyond high school.

4 (f) A foundation of academic knowledge, general workplace  
5 competencies, and occupationally specific knowledge and skills  
6 enable pupils to better access all postsecondary options.

7 (g) Most pupils achieve better subject mastery and technological  
8 skills when they are enrolled in courses that use hands-on  
9 experiential learning to exemplify how academic knowledge is  
10 used to solve real-world and industry-based problems.

11 (h) It is the intent of the Legislature that all of the following  
12 occur:

13 (1) High school courses provide pupils with linked learning  
14 experiences that will prepare them for the full range of  
15 postsecondary success.

16 (2) Teachers employ pedagogical strategies that will ensure  
17 pupil success in linked learning educational programs.

18 (3) The state seeks to increase the number of ~~career technical~~  
19 ~~teachers to provide quality blended programs; teachers to provide~~  
20 ~~quality programs that link subject matter knowledge with career~~  
21 ~~technical knowledge and experience.~~

22 SEC. 2. Section 44257.3 is added to the Education Code, to  
23 read:

24 ~~44257.3. (a) Commencing October 1, 2011, the commission~~  
25 ~~is encouraged to issue an authorization for linked learning~~  
26 ~~competence for holders of an appropriate credential, certificate,~~  
27 ~~authorization, or permit who will be teaching pupils enrolled in~~  
28 ~~linked learning programs pursuant to Section 52372.5.~~

29 *44257.3. (a) For purposes of this section, the following*  
30 *definitions apply:*

31 *(1) "Recognition of study" is a statement added to a credential*  
32 *recognizing that the credentialholder has completed a*  
33 *commission-approved course of study in the subject area listed.*

34 *(2) "Linked learning programs" are programs and pathways*  
35 *described in Section 52372.5 and may include, but are not limited*  
36 *to, California partnership academies.*

37 *(b) The commission is encouraged to convene a workgroup to*  
38 *develop program standards for the issuance of a recognition of*  
39 *study for linked learning competence for holders of a single subject*

1 *teaching credential who will be teaching pupils enrolled in linked*  
2 *learning programs pursuant to Section 52372.5.*

3 *(c) Members of the workgroup shall include, but are not limited*  
4 *to, representatives from:*

5 *(1) The department.*

6 *(2) Approved university teacher preparation programs,*  
7 *including at least one representative from the San Diego State*  
8 *University.*

9 *(3) The business community, including representatives from*  
10 *local chambers of commerce.*

11 *(4) Schools and school districts that have implemented multiple*  
12 *pathway programs or similar programs, including California*  
13 *partnership academies.*

14 *(5) Other organizations as deemed appropriate by the*  
15 *commission.*

16 ~~(b)~~

17 *(d) It is the intent of the Legislature that a successful candidate*  
18 *for the authorization a recognition of study developed pursuant to*  
19 *subdivision (a) demonstrate all of the following: (b) demonstrate*  
20 *appropriate knowledge, as decided upon by the workgroup*  
21 *convened pursuant to subdivision (b). This knowledge may include,*  
22 *but is not limited to, an understanding of the following:*

23 ~~(1) An understanding of all of the following in his or her~~  
24 ~~professional practice:~~

25 ~~(A) Equity and diversity.~~

26 ~~(B) Intradisciplinary and interdisciplinary cooperation and~~  
27 ~~collaboration.~~

28 ~~(C) Innovation.~~

29 ~~(D)~~

30 ~~(1) Industry and postsecondary educational partnerships.~~

31 ~~(E) Willingness and ability to assume leadership roles.~~

32 ~~(F) The importance of a personalized learning environment~~  
33 ~~where the different needs of each pupil are known and supported.~~

34 ~~(G)~~

35 *(2) Ongoing professional learning, including industry-specific*  
36 *orientation.*

37 ~~(H) Responsible, ethical, and legal conduct.~~

38 ~~(2) Content knowledge relating to all of the following:~~

39 ~~(A) Disciplinary academic standards.~~

1 ~~(B) The structure and goals of career technical educational~~  
2 ~~standards.~~  
3 ~~(C) Information management and technology.~~  
4 ~~(D) Collaborative classroom structure and operations.~~  
5 ~~(E)~~  
6 (3) Work-based learning approaches.  
7 ~~(F)~~  
8 (4) Career exposure and development.  
9 ~~(3) The ability to design curricula that do all of the following:~~  
10 ~~(A) Reflect interdisciplinary~~  
11 ~~(5) Interdisciplinary problem- and project-based structure and~~  
12 ~~content.~~  
13 ~~(B) Meet the California postsecondary basic course requirements~~  
14 ~~with respect to course structure and content.~~  
15 ~~(C) Address state~~  
16 (6) State academic and career technical education standards.  
17 ~~(D) Incorporate skills from the~~  
18 (7) The Partnership for 21st Century Skills' Framework for 21st  
19 Century Learning.  
20 ~~(4) The ability to incorporate all of the following into his or her~~  
21 ~~teaching practice:~~  
22 ~~(A)~~  
23 (8) Industry-based applications.  
24 ~~(B)~~  
25 (9) A pupil-centered teaching approach.  
26 ~~(C)~~  
27 (10) An emphasis on integrated problem- and project-based  
28 learning.  
29 ~~(D) Differentiated instruction.~~  
30 ~~(E) A research-based instructional model.~~  
31 ~~(F) The utilization of information provided by formative and~~  
32 ~~summative assessments.~~  
33 ~~(G) The effective use of instructional time.~~  
34 ~~(e)~~  
35 (e) With respect to any ~~authorization~~ *recognition of study* issued  
36 pursuant to subdivision ~~(a)~~ (b), the California State University and  
37 other teacher preparation institutions are encouraged to establish  
38 goals for increasing the number of teachers prepared through linked  
39 learning programs, and to explore methods to reintroduce or

1 ~~increase quality career technical education teacher credentialing~~  
2 ~~programs: *learning programs.*~~

3 ~~(d)~~

4 (f) The Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment program  
5 is encouraged to provide resources to teachers that support  
6 professional development opportunities relating to linked learning,  
7 which may include, but are not limited to, providing teachers with  
8 externships.

9 ~~(e) The commission is encouraged to work with outside partners~~  
10 ~~to develop recommendations that will provide incentives for the~~  
11 ~~teacher development system to increase the number of teachers~~  
12 ~~working toward an authorization issued pursuant to subdivision~~  
13 ~~(a):~~

14 ~~(f) In developing the authorization pursuant to subdivision (a),~~  
15 ~~the commission is encouraged to review any relevant~~  
16 ~~recommendations made by the Legislative Analyst's Office.~~

17 (g) *The commission may work with the Superintendent to gather*  
18 *and post, on an appropriate Internet Web site, best practices from*  
19 *school districts and schools on curriculum development and*  
20 *professional development relating to implementing and sustaining*  
21 *multiple pathway programs.*

22 SEC. 3. ~~Section 52372.5 of the Education Code is amended to~~  
23 ~~read:~~

24 ~~52372.5.—(a) For purposes of this section, a “linked learning~~  
25 ~~program” is a program that is all of the following:~~

26 ~~(1) A multiyear, comprehensive high school program of~~  
27 ~~integrated academic and technical study that is organized around~~  
28 ~~a broad theme, interest area, or industry sector, including, but not~~  
29 ~~necessarily limited to, the industry sectors identified in the model~~  
30 ~~standards adopted by the state board pursuant to Section 51226.~~

31 ~~(2) A program that ensures that all pupils have curriculum~~  
32 ~~choices that will prepare them for career entry and a full range of~~  
33 ~~postsecondary options, including two- and four-year college,~~  
34 ~~apprenticeship, and formal employment training.~~

35 ~~(3) A program that is comprised, at a minimum, of the following~~  
36 ~~components:~~

37 ~~(A) An integrated core curriculum that meets the eligibility~~  
38 ~~requirements for admission to the University of California and the~~  
39 ~~California State University and is delivered through project-based~~  
40 ~~learning and other engaging instructional strategies that~~

1 intentionally bring real-world context and relevance to the  
2 curriculum where broad themes, interest areas, and career technical  
3 education are emphasized.

4 (B) An integrated technical core of a sequence of at least four  
5 related courses, that may reflect career technical education  
6 standards-based courses, that provide pupils with career skills, that  
7 are aligned to and underscore academic principles, and to the extent  
8 possible fulfill the academic core requirements listed in  
9 subparagraph (A).

10 (C) A series of work-based learning opportunities that begin  
11 with mentoring and job shadowing and evolve into intensive  
12 internships, school-based enterprises, or virtual apprenticeships.

13 (D) Support services, including supplemental instruction in  
14 reading and mathematics, that help pupils master the advanced  
15 academic and technical content that is necessary for success in  
16 college and career.

17 (b) The Superintendent, in conjunction with the Office of the  
18 Secretary for Education, the California Community Colleges, the  
19 University of California, the California State University, the  
20 Employment Development Department, both houses of the  
21 California Legislature, teachers, chamber organizations, industry  
22 representatives, research centers, parents, school administrators,  
23 representatives of regional occupational centers and programs,  
24 community-based organizations, labor organizations, and others  
25 deemed appropriate by the Superintendent, shall develop a report  
26 that explores the feasibility of establishing and expanding  
27 additional linked learning programs in California, including the  
28 costs and merits associated with expansion of these programs.  
29 Linked learning programs created for high schools may include,  
30 but are not limited to, California partnership academies, regional  
31 occupational centers and programs, charter schools, academies,  
32 small learning communities, and other career-themed small schools.

33 (c) The report described in subdivision (b) shall do all of the  
34 following:

35 (1) Identify regulations, policies, and practices that need to be  
36 added, deleted, or amended in order to promote the development  
37 and expansion of linked learning programs.

38 (2) Set forth a reasonable timeline for the development and  
39 expansion of linked learning programs.

40 (3) Include at least all of the following components:

~~(A) Assessment of the current capacity of the department for the purpose of maximizing the development of these programs.~~

~~(B) Identifying the possible roles and responsibilities of other departments or agencies to assist in developing or expanding linked learning programs.~~

~~(C) An assessment of the appropriateness of school districts fulfilling the requirements set forth in subdivisions (a) and (b) of Section 51228 by developing industry-focused linked learning programs, including those described in this section.~~

~~(D) Methods for developing and sharing models of integrated curriculum and instruction.~~

~~(E) Strategies for increasing the course options and instructional time for pupils in high school.~~

~~(F) Plans for increasing opportunities for high-quality learning based on real-world applications in industry and careers.~~

~~(G) Methods for improving alignment of curriculum between middle schools and high schools with career instruction, exploration, and counseling for middle school pupils.~~

~~(H) Methods for improving coordination and articulation between high schools and postsecondary institutions, including, but not limited to, California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California.~~

~~(I) Recommendations for increasing the supply of teachers who can teach effectively in a linked learning setting that aims to prepare pupils for a full range of postsecondary options. Necessary specialized skills include, but are not limited to, the abilities to design interdisciplinary projects and use project-based learning as an instructional strategy, work with other teachers in a team-teaching arrangement, develop curriculum that effectively integrates academic and technical content, design and utilize high-quality work-based learning to reinforce lessons in both academic and technical courses, and develop authentic pupil assessments.~~

~~(J) Recommendations for increasing the supply of schoolsite and district administrators who can effectively create and manage schools that are implementing one or more industry focused linked learning programs. Necessary specialized skills include, but are not limited to, the abilities to develop and sustain partnerships with industry partners, recruit and retain uniquely qualified teachers, guide development of integrated curriculum, understand needs for~~



1 and provide teacher professional development, guide development  
2 of comprehensive guidance systems that integrate college advising  
3 and career counseling, guide development of a coordinated and  
4 sequenced work-based learning component, and utilize data to  
5 assess pupil readiness for college and career.

6 ~~(K) Recommendations for supporting regional coalitions in~~  
7 ~~planning and developing programs.~~

8 ~~(L) Evaluation of current linked learning programs, including~~  
9 ~~partnership academies, regional occupational centers or programs~~  
10 ~~and postsecondary linked learning programs, including middle~~  
11 ~~colleges and early college models.~~

12 ~~(M) Recommendations for increasing and improving in-school~~  
13 ~~support services.~~

14 ~~(N) Recommendations for incorporating new measures into the~~  
15 ~~state's accountability system to better assess the results of these~~  
16 ~~programs.~~

17 ~~(O) Assessment of the budgetary implications of offering all~~  
18 ~~pupils access to these programs.~~

19 ~~(d) For purposes of completing the report described in~~  
20 ~~subdivision (b), the Superintendent is authorized to use existing~~  
21 ~~state resources and federal funds. If state or federal funds are not~~  
22 ~~available or sufficient, the Superintendent may apply for and accept~~  
23 ~~grants and receive donations, and other financial support from~~  
24 ~~public or private sources for purposes of this section.~~

25 ~~(e) In developing the report, the Superintendent may accept~~  
26 ~~support including, but not necessarily limited to, financial and~~  
27 ~~technical support, from high school reform advocates, teachers,~~  
28 ~~chamber organizations, industry representatives, research centers,~~  
29 ~~parents, and pupils.~~

30 ~~(f) The Superintendent shall report to the Legislature as to the~~  
31 ~~status of completing the report and any preliminary~~  
32 ~~recommendations no later than July 1, 2009.~~

33 ~~(g) The Superintendent shall submit a final report with~~  
34 ~~recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor no later than~~  
35 ~~December 1, 2009.~~

36 ~~(h) The Superintendent may develop procedures to gather and~~  
37 ~~post best practices from local school districts and schools on~~  
38 ~~curriculum development and professional development related to~~

- 1 ~~implementing and sustaining schools and academies pursuant to~~
- 2 ~~this section.~~

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